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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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COUNTRY Switzerland/Bulgaria**DATE:** 25X1A6a**SUBJECT** Damian Velchev, Bulgarian Minister to Switzerland**INFO.****DIST.** 27 October 1947**ORIGIN**

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PAGES**SUPPLEMENT**

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1. The Bulgarian Minister to Switzerland, Damian Velchev, was ordered to Sofia at the time of the ratification of the peace treaties on 15 September 1947 to report on the international situation. Velchev telephoned the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Georgiev, stating that his health would not permit him to comply with the request and that he saw no purpose in such a long trip.
2. Velchev received two requests from Georgiev to hold a press conference in Bern, explaining the Petkov execution. It is reported that Velchev notified Sofia that public reaction to the execution had been very unfavorable, and that, in Geneva, press attaché Dimitrov had been advised against holding a press conference by Léon Nicole, head of the Swiss Parti du Travail. Nicole, it appears, feared that a most unfavorable public reaction would result from a press conference in Geneva or in Bern, and that such a step would damage the chances of the Parti du Travail in the coming elections.
3. Velchev believes that Sofia expects him to resign, but he has no intention of doing so. He will move to Geneva if recalled; source expects this to occur within a few weeks.

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